

Jan-March 2005

Issue 5

LLF SUNNY TIMES

NASA GRC LEWIS LITTLE FOLKS, 216.433.5264

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Message from the Director's Office

By: Maureen Sartain, Director Carmella Genaro, Assistant Director

Welcome Spring!

We're doing a lot of planning for spring and summer at LLF! Mark your calendars for the following events. More information for all events will be given to parents closer to the dates listed.

April 4-8: Week of the Young Child

This is a week of celebration of children. The theme this year is "Children's Opportunities are our Responsibilities". We are planning to give the children a lot of opportunities this week in addition to the opportunities they get each day at LLF. Several events to watch for include a parent's breakfast with your child, car seat inspections in our parking lot, free literature on parenting topics, and days when parents and grandparents are invited to play and read to the children. Also, we plan to have face painting for the children on Friday of that week. We would like parent volunteers to travel to the classrooms to make spring designs on the children's faces and hands (LLF provides paint and brushes). Please let us know if you can help!

April 11: New menu to begin. This will be sent out to all parents.

April 12: Ident-A-Kid.

This is an event where a specialist from the Ident-A-Kid company comes to LLF and makes a photo ID of children for parents. This is completely voluntary (not required), and parents need to pre-pay for the cards in an envelope that we will distribute. These cards are intended to be kept in the unfortunate event of a lost child.

April 18-22: Earth Week.

LLF will celebrate Earth Week along with NASA Glenn. NASA will participate by coordinating a visit from the Aerobus and possibly a Metroparks speaker. Many other events will take place that week such as creating recycled art, a coloring contest, nature T-shirt day, and nature kits in each classroom.

May 13: Spring Picture Day

Parents may receive spring pictures from Lifetouch Portraits (the same company we had come out in the fall). Pictures can include graduation pictures for Tigers and Kindergartners in cap and gown.

Message from the Director's Office (continued)

May 16: Vision Screening

Preschool children will receive a free vision screening from the Cleveland Sight Center.

June 10: Graduation

Tigers and Kindergartners will have a graduation ceremony.

June 13: Summer Camp begins

Summer camp is offered to all current Tigers (going into Kindergarten) and Kindergartners at LLF. Older siblings will have enrollment after current students are enrolled. A packet with information and registration information will be out in April.

The following are some reminders and requests for parents:

All parents will need to enter the LLF building through the main doors to pick up your child. If your child is on the playground, please let them know that they cannot open up the security gates surrounding the playgrounds to let you in. Those gates are made to not open up from the outside for security reasons, and we are trying to teach the children not to open them. You may exit through them only. Thank you for helping us use our security system properly to keep your children safe!

LLF is accepting donations of articles of clothing that your child may have outgrown. This can include pants, shirts, shorts, coats, hats, gloves, underwear, and boots. We like to keep items on hand in case a child does not have extra clothes in his/her basket, and we often do not have enough. Please check to see that the clothes are in wearable condition and clean. Thank you very much for any donations provided. LLF is able to provide you with a tax donation form.

As usual, please stop, call or email if you have any questions. Thanks for being such great, caring parents!

*"Please never leave
children alone in our
parking lot."*

Lewis Little Folks

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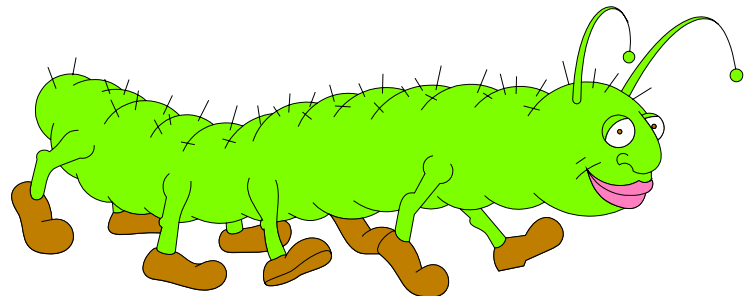
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Board of Trustees

By: Gwendolyn Flowers, President

We are in the final stages of completing the Communication Plan for LLF. Very soon you will notice TV's installed in the lobby and multipurpose room which will provide LLF access to the LINK System at Glenn.

You may also receive communication from your child's teacher via e-mail in the future as the staff will establish e-mail accounts and receive Internet access. The Internet will be a great resource for our staff and we are all excited about the possibilities.

Thanks to your support of various fundraisers we are able to continue Spanish classes and add canopies to the sandboxes in the playground area. One of our biggest fundraisers is the Golf Outing, will be held on June 3rd. We are still in need of parents to support this event, so please contact Michelle Williamson, our Fundraising Chair, if you can help

We are currently making plans for the Annual LLF Membership Meeting. At this meeting we will elect new officers in addition to hearing reports from the President, Director and Treasurer of LLF. The Nominating Committee will be formed during the month of April and may be contacting some of you to serve in various positions. We also need individuals to serve on committees as well. Please consider donating your time and talents to LLF.

Please make plans to attend (additional information will be forthcoming):

Date: June 28th
Place: Building 301, Room 111
Time: 4:00-5:30 pm

Please note that the newsletter is now forwarded to parents via e-mail instead of hard copies.

Congratulations to those of you who have children graduating from Preschool or Kindergarten on June 10th.

As always thank you for your continued support.

"The Internet will be a great resource for our staff and we are excited about the possibilities"

Classroom Numbers

Bunny 1: 433-9179
Bunny 2: 433-8612
Duckling: 433-9178
Puppy 1: 433-9182
Puppy 2: 433-9184
Preschool 1: 433-9177
Pre School 2: 433-9185
Pre School 3: 433- 9183
Kindergarten: 433-9180
Multipurpose: 433- 6629
Main Entrance: 433- 8160
Long Hallway: 433- 9430
Staff Lounge: 433-3084
Kitchen: 433-9431
Offices: 433-5264 or 5265
LLF Cell Phone: 216-406-6783

"Congratulations to those of you who have children graduating from Preschool or Kindergarten in June."

Classroom News

Bunny 1 Room: Miss Renee, Miss Jeanette

Spring is finally here and the flowers are blooming and the birds are singing. Everyone is welcoming spring and looking forward to the warmer weather and going outside to play on our playground, along with our leisurely stroller rides. The holidays were very busy and enjoyable and we would like to thank all of our parents for the lovely Christmas presents and wonderful comments about our room and the Bunny 1 staff. We really do appreciate every one of you and truly have great parents (and babies) in this room!

We would like to welcome our two newest "bunnies", Anthony Ratino, who celebrated his first birthday on January 26, and Audrey Wemple, born on August 15, 2004. They both have made a wonderful and quick adjustment to our room.

Congratulations and goodbye to Alyssa Scheneman, who graduated to the Duck Room. At 17 months old, she was ready for new challenges, and we will miss her. We also said goodbye to Mosi Gibson, who left LLF. All the babies said "goodbye" with their "painted handprints" in a card and we wished Mom and Mosi "good luck" and "happiness in the future."

We celebrated all our birthdays this past fall and winter and summer birthdays will be announced in the next newsletter.

As the weather gets warmer, please bring in season-appropriate clothes, including a hat that ties, and don't forget extra clothing for your child's bin.

Bunny 2 Room: Miss Tina, Miss Tara, Miss Melanie

Welcome Spring! With the warmer weather coming, we will be going outside as often as we can. Yeah! We still need to make sure we have our coats, hats, and gloves.

Bunny 2 would like to say congratulations to Marquis Globokar for moving up to the Duck Room. We know she will do great in her new room. In February we had two new bunnies start. Nicholas Greenwalt, born on December 12th, 2004, and Nick Fumich, born on December 13th, 2004, just a day apart from each other! Welcome to our room boys! In March Helina Wilson also started in the Bunny Room. She will be celebrating her first birthday on March 31st. Happy birthday Helina! In April we will be welcoming another Bunny to our room, Kylie Jicha, who was born in January of 2005. We welcome all our bunnies with open arms.

Congratulations to Julia Groff who learned how to walk. Good going Julia! Helina Wilson is also on her way to becoming a big walker. Keep trying Helina!

We would also like to thank all those who made donations to our room! We are always open for any donations from disposable cameras to indoor-outdoor toys and clothes! They are all very much needed and appreciated.

In April we will be having a lot of fun. April 4th-8th we will have "Week of the Young Child". Some activities may include breakfast with your child, share a book day, face painting, Grandparent's Day, pajama day and make your own ice-cream sundaes.

April 18th-22nd we will celebrate "Earth Week." We will be doing lots of activities including show and tell, nature shirt day and art projects using recycled items.

If you are ever wondering what your child does through out the day, we hang a weekly lesson plan in our room. All of our art projects are hung up on our walls and the hallway. You are welcome to take the projects home after they are displayed for a brief period. The Bunny 2 teachers want to make sure that all parents know that they are welcome to call or stop by at anytime.



CLASSROOM NEWS (CONT.)

Ducklings : Miss Dacia, Miss Samantha

Hello parents, spring is here. It is time for our Ducks to travel outdoors and do some exploring. So we would like to make sure that they have hats for those chilly days and extra clothes for those curious days. We know ducks like water and if there is water, we are sure there will be mud.

We also have two birthdays coming up in April. Audrey Jicha on the 6th and Anna Luu on the 25th. They will be the BIG "2." So if you see them around the pond, give them a big "HAPPY BIRTHDAY."

Our theme for spring will be, you guessed it, SPRING! With spring comes flowers and where there are flowers there are sure to be some bugs. So if you could help us out with the colors of our flowers we would appreciate it. Also if you see a spider don't scream and squish it, point it out and let them know it is a spider, and then sing them a little "Itsy-Bitsy Spider." They love it and they can even show you the hand movements to it! So enjoy the new weather and help us enjoy it too! Thank you!

Puppy 1: Miss Janice, Miss Lisa

Winter is almost over. We will be hopping into spring. The children are hopping into learning their colors and counting and the changes in the weather. With the weather changing we are teaching the children what to do and where to go if we have a tornado. The children will know that we go out in the hallway and sit towards the wall and put their hands over their heads. We also have fire drills once a month. It is a practice for the children so they know what to do if we have a real fire. It can be traumatic for your children if they don't know what to do at home as well. We suggest that you have a plan at home and practice it with your family so they will know what to do if there is a disaster (fire, tornado, etc.)

April and May main themes will be "Being Healthy" and "Water, Water, Everywhere." We would like to wish Happy Birthday to Leticia Campbell (March 13), Ayana McCoy (May 5) and Caleb Hill (May 14).

Lisa and I would like to thank all the parents for their support in helping the children learn, listen and grow here at school, as well as at home.

Puppy 2: Miss Deana, Miss Julie

We'd like to welcome our newest Puppies to our room—Abby Williamson, Devar Anderson, Nick Rhodes and Zachary Padula.

Happy Birthday wishes to Michaela Noebe (3/12), Zachary Padula (3/29), Kayla Reid (5/3), Scott Adkins (5/30) and Miss Deana (5/8).

We'd like to wish all of our mothers a very happy Mother's Day on May 8th. Your Puppy Two children would like to invite you to a special Mother's Day Tea Party on Wednesday May 4th. This will be held in the multipurpose room at 3 pm.

Miss Julie and Miss Deana have some wonderful news to share. Miss Deana will be getting married to Andy on May 7, 2005. To prepare for her wedding and to celebrate after it, Miss Deana will be off work May 5th through May 9th and also for her Honeymoon the week of May 16th. After two long and very busy years at Kent State University, Miss Julie will receive her Masters in Library and Information Science on May 14th. She will be moving to Charlotte, North Carolina, to become a Librarian. Miss Julie's last day working at Lewis Little Folks will be May 13th. She has truly enjoyed working with all the children at LLF these last two years.

Thanks and Happy Spring!

Pre School 1: Miss Cathy, Miss Anita

Well spring is finally here; that means that our classroom is “blooming” with excitement. It will be a month of exploration and discovery. Our room has grown so much in many different ways, but we still have much to learn during the rest of the school year. In the days ahead we will be learning and studying about Weather, Transportation, The Week of the Young Child, Earth Week and Baby Animals, to name a few. In May we will have a Mother’s Day Tea. In June before the graduation we have something special planned for Father’s Day.

Our new student teacher is Erin Goldsmith from Cleveland State. She will be with us until June.

We just finished working on our letters of the week. A big THANK YOU to every one who brought in the letter snacks for each week. We will be working on our numbers next and then we’ll see how everything adds up. If it is possible, please try to leave your child’s boots here at school for when we go outside. With the weather warming up it will be muddy and it helps keep our room clean, plus your child’s shoes last longer.

Birthdays past and present

March	April	May
3/3 RJ Shyne	4/5 Lauren Borowski	5/4 Mia Colozza
3/23 Teddy Stueber	4/14 Alex Krinov	
3/31 Adriana Pinero	4/18 Ryan Palyo	

A very happy Birthday to all!

Suggestion to share with your family during Earth Week.

Practice sorting recycling material, crate a worm farm and make a terrarium out of a pop bottle.

Great books to share with your family: Lost in the Woods By: Carl R. Sams & Jean Stoick, and The Giving Tree By: Shel Silverstein.

CLASSROOM NEWS (CONT.)

Pre School 2: *Miss Maureen, Miss Sharyl*

The Month of March was a big success. We've been very busy studying pond life, baby animals, St. Patrick's Day and leprechauns, spring and Easter and spring weather. We are also finished with the alphabet. We will review the letters through the rest of the year. Next month we will be starting numbers. Upcoming lessons include April 4th-8th, the "Week of the Young Child", 11th- 15th is good health, 18th- 22nd is "Earth Week" and the 25th-29th is flowers. We are going to need recyclable items for our art project during Earth Week (18th-22nd). We had many birthdays in February: DeAvion Anderson, Alex Williams, Jessica Ryan and Bianca Legeza-Narvaez. In March, Claire Hu had a birthday. We've had a fun time learning the alphabet, and thank you for all the alphabet snacks you donated. Please welcome our two new Bears: Michelle LeGallee and Matthew Williams.

Preschool 3: *Miss Donna, Mr. Tim*

Spring has arrived and we have enjoyed being able to get out into the fresh air and sunshine!!!

We would like to highlight some of our themes for this spring. March brought us St. Patrick's Day fun and Easter celebration. We are also looking forward to Earth Week and Week of the Young Child with special activities and events. More information will come later on these unique times.

A big birthday wish to Satya Nayagam (March 12), Gabriela Santiago (March 31), Dagny Sacksteder (April 11), Erin Waters (April 17) and Miss Donna (May 20).

You may also want to check your child's extra clothes located in the baskets in their lockers. A switch over to warmer weather clothes may be necessary.

If at any time you have any questions, concerns or comments please do not hesitate to ask.



CLASSROOM NEWS (CONT.)

Kindergarten: *Miss Foster, Miss. Ammons*

Spring is here? The calendar states it starts March 20 but your child still needs gloves and a hat along with a warm coat everyday.

Our class has been busy this winter and we are working hard on getting ready for first grade. We have finished with the alphabet and alphabet sounds. We learned addition and subtraction along with counting money. Can you believe we are reading books already?! We will continue our Kindergarten Curriculum and review what we have learned this year. Parents, please work with your child practicing your area code and phone number, home address, street, city, state, and zip code, along with teaching your child to tie his/her shoes. The Kindergarten Class is having a field trip to the Cleveland Museum of Natural History on April 29. All children are required to bring a paper bag lunch this day, because we will eat lunch at the Museum. Another field trip is being planned for May, along with our Zoo Field Trip in June.

Happy Birthdays to Alex Winter (Feb.5), Alexis Smith (Feb.12), Ryan Mongalier (Feb.13), Samantha Wong (Feb. 21), Jacob Waters (March 4), Allison Cipalla (March 23), Michael Alpert (May 5), Miss Ammons (June 6), David LeGallee (June 7)and Edwin Heryak (June 24).

After- School News: Ms. Ammons

Crafts, crafts and more crafts planned for this spring! After - school has been busy with lots of fun learning activities. Bingo and Name Bingo are very popular with the children and they ask to play these games all the time. We have learned how to play checkers and card games. The children love when they beat me at checkers, or leave me holding the old maid card. Now that the weather is warming up we will go outdoors and do lots of outdoor activities. The tie dyed socks activity was fun!! If your child has not worn his/her socks you might want to wash them, some children have reported to me that they had colored toes and feet after wearing their socks. Happy spring!

Staff Member of the Quarter !

By: Maureen Sartain

LLF would like to recognize two "Staff Members of the Quarter".

Ms. Sharon Foster and Ms. Linda Ammons have done a tremendous job during this school year with our Kindergartners.

Ms. Foster, Kindergarten teacher, spends much time working with each Kindergarten child to help him/her achieve their absolute best. She incorporates a very fun atmosphere into a curriculum that will help the children learn everything they need, and more, when they enter first grade. Ms. Foster has worked closely with many of the parents to address concerns and provide extra attention to the children, and has given a lot of praise and encouragement at the same time. Ms. Foster is a huge asset to the LLF program and we all greatly appreciate her efforts and hard work.

Ms. Ammons, Kindergarten Assistant teacher, works very closely with Ms. Foster to provide individualized attention to each student in the Kindergarten class. Ms. Ammons spent time this year tutoring several of the children to help them become successful. Ms. Ammons also plans very creative, hands-on, learning activities for the children during after-school care. She also contributes to the entire center by sharing ideas for other programs and classes. Ms. Ammons is LLF's "Curriculum Specialist" and helps to review all staff's lesson plans to ensure that developmentally appropriate practices are being followed and to offer additional ideas for each age group.

Thank you to both teachers for your dedication to the children of LLF!

Board of Trustees – Committee Reports

Staff Appreciation Committee

By: Melissa McGuire

Things are starting up again for the Staff Appreciation Committee activities after our winter slow down. We are currently in the planning stages for our Teacher Appreciation Week celebration. Scheduled to take place the first week of May, we're hoping to do something fun each day of Teacher Appreciation Week for the teachers and staff of Lewis Little Folks. Any parents with ideas are more than welcome to add them. Contact Melissa McGuire (x7128). More details on the celebration in the next newsletter. Other than those activities, we've got a few weddings, a baby, a departure and several birthdays left to finish out the year.

Fundraising Committee

By: Michelle Williamson

A big THANK YOU to all who participated in the Malley's candy sale. We raised over \$1800 for Lewis Little Folks. Thanks to your efforts this year, LLF will be getting two covers built for the sandboxes. We also were able to help sponsor the new Spanish classes that started this winter!

Mark your calendars for our Fifth Annual LLF GOLF OUTING to be held Friday, June 3rd at Springvale Golf Course. It is a 4-man/woman scramble format with a shotgun start. The cost is \$70 per person and includes 18-hole greens fees, cart and a delicious chicken and rib dinner afterwards. Dust off those clubs and grab some friends and join us for a fun day of golf that benefits our kids. If you are not a golfer, please recruit your office mates!

We'll also be looking for help with prize solicitation and some extra people to help on that day with registration! Brochures are available in the LLF office and registration forms are available on our website.

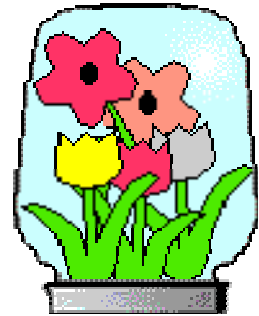
Keep an eye out for more info about the golf outing. Thanks in advance for your cooperation.

If you are interested in helping out or have any ideas to share, please contact Michelle Williamson at 440-546-0434 or e-mail Micander68@aol.com.

KIDS ART CORNER- Baby Jar Garden

What You Need

- Baby food jar with lid
- Small dried or silk flowers
- Rolling pin
- Craft or hot glue
- Homemade (or store bought) play dough



Play dough recipe:

- 1 cup Flour
- 2 teaspoons Cream of tartar
- 1/4 cup Salt
- 1 cup warm Water
- 1 teaspoon Oil
- Food coloring

How To Make It

1. **Play dough** - Mix all ingredients, adding food coloring last. Stir over medium heat until blended smooth. Place in plastic bag or airtight container when cooled.
2. **Making the 'garden'** - Roll out play dough with a rolling pin. Use the mouth of the jar as a cookie cutter (if you use the lid, you can't close the jar). Hot glue (adults only) the play dough into the lid and wait about 10 seconds. Have the kids stick flowers into the dough. Leave lids on a cookie sheet to dry over night.
3. When the play dough is dry, screw on the lid carefully.

You can write a name on the jar with glitter or decorate any way you wan